



CALPEEK

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CAMPAIGN '96: BATTLE OVER MINIMUM WAGE.

Editor's note: This past summer Pres. Bill Clinton signed a new federal minimum wage law, thus on Oct. 1st the current \$4.25 wage will rise to \$4.75 and then will go to \$5.15 on Sept. 1, 1997. What impact will this have on Prop. 210, Calif.'s own minimum wage law, which will eventually hike the wage to \$5.75 by March of 1998?? Here is **Calpeek's** brief update & analysis...

...The *Liveable Wage Coalition*, led by the Calif. Labor Federation(AFL-CIO), is all smiles after seeing the latest L.A. Times survey results on Prop. 210. The survey (Sept. 14-17, 397 likely voters) shows **71% Yes vs. 22% No**. YES on 210's own survey data taken in July by The Mellman Group showed 65% Yes vs. 26% No...

...But the *Alliance To Protect Small Businesses & Jobs*, the main 210 opposition committee, has some recent private polling which has the *potential* to upset the wagon. Like the LAT poll, this data also shows huge support - 72% for 210. But then a push question was inserted into the mix: *are you aware that there's a new federal minimum wage?* According to the data, 50% of those questioned either forgot about that or just didn't know. And when asked again about whether they'd support 210, there was a **26 point drop**. So now the NO side is still behind, but at 46% Yes vs. 42% No, that's a margin within reach...

...YES on 210 has data (Mellman poll) which runs counter to the NO side's claim. When voters are informed of the new federal wage law, support declines from 65% to 57%, while the opposition goes up only slightly to 28%. It's a drop, but not nearly as drastic...

...Sources believe the NO side will have the funds for a solid tv campaign with an economic message that 4 wage hikes over an 18 month period is just too costly

for many small Calif. businesses. The PBN Co. will handle tv/media. The YES side has hired Hopcraft Communications in Sacto to handle both free & paid media. Will the YES side have funds for a tv buy? Our sources aren't sure, but #210 did raise \$250,000 at a dinner this summer honoring longtime labor leader John Henning, who is chairing the 210 coalition's board of directors. New contribution reports are due Oct. 5...

...FYI: One of the key reasons why organized labor would **not** back away from 210, even after Pres. Clinton signed the new minimum wage law, was because 210 may act as a *magnet* to draw low propensity Demo voters: renters and adults w/families who earn less than \$25,000. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '96: HOW IMPORTANT ARE DEBATES??

Editor's note: To this question, there are several answers. To GOP presidential candidate Bob Dole, these two upcoming debates are critical. To Prop. 209 chair Ward Connerly, you might get an entirely different reaction. Ditto with local candidates. Here is **Calpeek's** spin on debates...

...With 80-90 million viewers watching, the Presidential debates Oct. 6th in Hartford and Oct. 16th in San Diego are critical to Dole, whose campaign is in need of a major *enthusiasm transfusion* - anything to excite the GOP base and independent voters he needs to overtake Pres. Bill Clinton, who still holds a lead in the latest USA Today/CNN/Gallup tracking polls (53% to 36%, w/5% for Reform Party candidate Ross Perot). With so many viewers expected to watch, it's no wonder Perot went to court to be included in the debates. And to add to Dole's discomfort, Jesse Jackson has now allied his Rainbow Coalition with Perot's legal action. The lawsuit will be heard Oct. 1 before U.S. Judge Thomas Hogan, a Reagan appointee. It was a

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big mistake for Dole to insist on Perot's exclusion because now Perot is using this to get on the talk radio/tv circuit. If Perot starts to climb above his 5-6% range in the polls, it could come at Dole's expense...

...As for the importance of such debates, aside for the huge viewership, the political pundits are watching for only one thing: a screw up by either candidate. Very little new ground (substance) is ever broken in these debates because the emphasis is on style and coolness under fire. The spin doctors are already at work for Dole - lowering expectations because Pres. Clinton is considered a political whiz when it comes to debates...

...Here in Calif. (L.A.), every camera in town, plus lots of national media, was focused on the campus of Cal State Northridge on Sept. 25 as ex-KKKer David Duke debated civil rights activist Joe Hicks over the merits of Prop. 209. Question: what sort of coverage would there have been if instead of Duke you had #209 chair Ward Connerly? Answer: not nearly as much coverage because tv news directors just don't like to cover politics --- except when there's a David Duke. Does this mean Props. 214/216 (health care reform) need Jack Kevorkian (aka Dr. Death) to get tv coverage??? It's really sad...

...At the local level, attracting news media coverage of debates gets even tougher. Television coverage is almost impossible to get at this level and crowds are generally small (100-200 is considered good sized for a congressional debate). Cable tv has tried to fill the broadcast tv void, but the viewership is modest at best. Why the drop-off? GOP consultant Allan Hoffenblum's quote about debates probably sums up the situation best (at least at the local level): *The only people who care about debates are candidates behind in the polls and the League of Women Voters...*

...FYI: The VP debate between Al Gore(D) & Jack Kemp(R) is set for Oct. 9 in St. Petersburg. Locally, Century Cable TV is hosting in-studio debates for the 41st AD @ 10 a.m., Oct. 10; 53rd AD @ 11 a.m., Oct. 11; 29th CD @ 11 a.m., Oct. 25. Century Cable's Bill Rosendahl will moderate the following debates sponsored by the AARP: 24th CD @ 9 a.m., Oct. 5; and 36th CD @ 9 a.m., Oct. 19. Other AARP debates include: 27th CD @ 9 a.m., Oct. 12; and 38th CD @ 9 a.m., Oct. 26. Stay tuned...

U.S. REP ED ROYCE AT WEST L.A. LINCOLN CLUB.

U.S. Rep. Ed Royce(R-Orange Co.) will be the guest speaker at the West L.A. Lincoln Club's Oct. 8th meeting, 6:30 p.m., Regency Club. For info & RSVPs, ☎ Sarah Kane (818)598-3787...

CAMPAIGN '96: COUNTY BOARD OF SUPES RACES.

Editor's note: Here is Part II of our continuing series of updates on hot County Board of Supervisor races...

☒ Los Angeles - In this bitter election to replace veteran Sup. Deane Dana, most Calpeek sources are betting that Dana's longtime chief deputy, former Cerritos Mayor Don Knabe, will win this 4th district race against former Rolling Hills Councilwoman Gordana Swanson, who lost to Dana in 1992 by a 57% to 43% margin. In a field of 6 candidates, Knabe got 40% in the primary. The pluses for Knabe: major endorsements from the L.A. County establishment (law enforcement, Sheriff Sherman Block, L.A. City Mayor Richard Riordan & labor); an ability to raise a large war chest; no need for OJT - he's already up-to-speed on county government (she's not). Swanson's key assets: the L.A. Times; she's better positioned than Knabe as the outsider battling the bureaucracy; lots of environmental backing. But the critical element in the view of many comes down to funding. Up to now, Swanson hasn't demonstrated that she can match Knabe --- or is willing to self-fund, which she's done in the past. *If* she comes up with big bucks to pound home her outsider message, this race could tighten up...

☒ Orange Co. - There are two(2) hot contests for OPEN seats. **District #1** matches Westminster Mayor Chuck Smith against Garden Grove Councilman Mark Leyes - a very close buddy of Assembly Speaker Curt Pringle. Smith got 29% in the primary vs. 27% for Leyes. Leyes will outspend Smith, but Smith has won backing from Sheriff Brad Gates, former Sup. Tom Riley, Fountain Valley Mayor George Scott, Irvine Mayor Mike Ward and Anaheim Mayor Tom Daly. As for County Firefighters, they are with Leyes. In the other race for the OPEN **3rd District**, Assemblyman Mickey Conroy(R) is still considered a favorite over Dep. DA Todd Spitzer, who is also a local school board member --- but Mickey's in hot water once again. Conroy lost his cool Sept. 17th at a GOP rally, where he gave Spitzer a double digital salute. Why? Spitzer has been hammering Conroy about his upcoming sexual

harassment trial (set after the Nov. 5th election). As for "the finger" incident, it was front-page news in O.C. It's a very negative story for Conroy and as one neutral source told **Calpeek**, "It's the best thing that's happened to Spitzer because it makes Conroy look like a buffoon and it may just help Todd with fundraising." And Spitzer managed to block an endorsement for Conroy from the County GOP Central Cmt. Not good news for Mickey, but some insiders think it's still Conroy's race to win or lose. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '96: CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE UPDATE.

Editor's note: Here's another update about initiatives on the 1996 ballot, including lots of new polling data. For this report, we'll use likely voter info from the L.A. Times(Sept. 14-17, around 400 sample size) and the Field Poll(Aug. 29-Sept. 7, 300-600 sample size, depending on the ballot measure)...

◆ #209 - The CCRI (anti/affirmation action initiative) continues to lead in both surveys...

	LAT	Field
Yes	59%	48%
No	28%	31%

● #211 - This is the Securities Fraud initiative authored by attorney Bill Lerach. What's of interest is that the two polls are almost the *exact opposites*...

	LAT	Field
Yes	26%	41%
No	42%	27%

...The NO side, Taxpayers Against Frivolous Lawsuits, has been on both tv & radio for more than 2 months, so you would think they've made a impression. And indeed, a NO on 211 source told **Calpeek** that their polling (by The Holm Group) is in sync with the LAT. The YES side, Citizens for Retirement Protection & Security, are using the Field Poll to bash the NO side, saying voters aren't buying the NO side's tv campaign. They say their polling (Fairbank, Maslin & Maullin) is consistent with Field. So what's new???

...Prop. 207, a second tort reform measure on the Nov. 5th ballot --- but one which isn't getting all that much attention, is way ahead in the Field Poll: 57% Yes vs. 25% No, w/18% undecided. FYI: the pros & cons of 207/211 will be debated at 11 a.m., Oct. 4, in the Santa Monica studios of Century Cable TV...

◆ #215 - This is the *medical use* of marijuana initiative --- and it's leading in both polls - big time...

	LAT	Field
Yes	53%	62%
No	31%	29%

◆ #214 & #216 - These are the two similar health care reform measures. They are trailing in both polls. The NO side has been on tv & radio for more than 6 weeks, blasting both measures...

214	LAT	Field
Yes	11%	22%
No	37%	43%

216	LAT	Field
Yes	13%	19%
No	37%	46%

...FYI: The Union of American Physicians & Dentists (UAPD) has endorsed both 214 & 216...

◆ #218 - This is Jarvis/Gann IV. LAT didn't poll here, but Field did. Field shows 89% are **not** aware of this measure. After a summary of the measure is read, it's 37% Yes vs. 38% No, w/25% undecided. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '96: CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on key Calif. Assembly races...

☒ 24th AD - This Silicon Valley/San Jose area district is back on the table now that teacher/businessman Ed Foglia(D) is actively campaigning again. About 7 weeks prior to the Mar. 26th primary, Foglia said he would cease campaigning for personal reasons. He had high blood pressure, which is now under control. Some felt Foglia's earlier decision had more to do with the CTA's endorsement of GOP Assemblyman Jim Cunneen. Remember: Foglia is a past president of CTA and for that organization **not** to endorse a former president is significant. In July, Foglia reversed course and hired Sacto consultant Gale Kaufman to run his campaign. Demo polling shows a close race and Pres. Bill Clinton carried the 24th by 10 pts. in '92. Cunneen's poll (Sept. 7-8, 300 likely voters taken by The Holm Group) shows him leading 41% to 23%, w/33% undecided and 3% for Libertarian John Peterson. In '94, Cunneen defeated Foglia by a 51% to 49% margin.

This race now moves from safe GOP to Calpeek's *watch list*. FYI: the 24th is nested w/i Demo Sen. Byron Sher's 11th SD and Senate Demos are throwing in heavy resources and this may help Foglia...

☒ **53rd AD** - In this Torrance/So. Bay area of L.A. Co., Demo Assemblywoman Debra Bowen is locked in a very tight race with Torrance Councilman Dan Walker(R). A poll for Walker by Charlton Research shows Bowen on top by a 38% vs. 34% margin, with 24% undecided and 4% for neither...

☒ **67th AD** - Chutzpah award to Assembly Speaker Curt Pringle(R) for his invite to lobbyists to attend a \$500 per/person Oct. 2nd fundraiser for Assemblyman Scott Baugh. Headline on the invite says: *Baugh Is Vindicated*. At the bottom of the invite, it reads: *all proceeds to go to the Baugh reelect (not to the lawyers)*. Baugh still faces 1 felony and 4 misdemeanor campaign reporting violations...

☒ **54th AD** - Two separate polls show GOP Assemblyman Steve Kuykendall leading Demo Gerrie Schipske by only 5 pts. One poll (for Demo 21st SD candidate Betty Karnette) shows Kuykendall ahead of Schipske by a 35% to 30% margin. A CTA polls shows Kuykendall ahead by a 38% vs. 33% margin...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ ***New Report Bashes 208/212*** - The Citizens' Research Foundation (based at USC) has released a white paper on campaign reform Props. 208/212 which says the initiatives lower contribution limits will do nothing to decrease campaigns' need for money and that by making it harder to raise funds, candidates under either 208/212 will be *slaves to fundraising*. It's a very damaging report for YES on 208/212...

■ ***Just Don't Do It*** - Seen in a storefront in West Hollywood: a new T-shirt w/ the Dole/Kemp '96 logo. **Wrong**. It was *Dope/Hemp '96*. Had us fooled until we looked a second time...

CCRI (209) DISCUSSION AT PUBLIC POLICY SERIES.
Is "CCRI - CA Civil Rights Init.(aka Prop. 209) good or bad for business? That's the topic of a panel discussion led by L.A. Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas when the Public Policy Series holds its monthly breakfast at 8 a.m., Oct. 9, City Club, downtown L.A. For info/RSVPs ☎ Strategy Workshop (213)489-3989...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.
Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● Matthew N. Klink & Kate Lockard have been appointed AEs at Cerrell Associates, Inc. in L.A...

● Heather Moore has been hired as a marketing coordinator and Maria Avdalas has been hired as an AE by Sacto-based The Bovee Co...

● Mike Radlovic has been named Exec. Director of the L.A. Co. Republican Party. He's chair of the San Gabriel Valley Lincoln Club and co-founder of Lee & Assoc. (commercial real estate) in City of Industry...

● Mike Rivera has been promoted to Project Manager at San Diego-based Competitive Edge Research & Communications...

CALPEEK'S ELECTORAL COLLEGE SCOREBOARD

Editor's note: It takes 270 electoral college votes to be elected President of the U.S. There are 538 EC votes. We'll provide the name of the State + the number of EC votes for each State. These projections are based upon polling data on a State-by-State basis. Some races are very close. 37 days before Nov. 5th...

Clinton: AR(6), CA(54), CO(8), CT(8), DE(3), DC(3), HI(4), IL(22), IA(7), KY(8), LA(9), ME(4), MD(10), MA(12), MI(18), MN(10), MO(11), NJ(15), NM(5), NY(33), OH(21), OR(7), PA(23), RI(4), TN(11), VT(3), WA(11), WV(5) and WI(11). 29 States w/346 EC votes...

Dole: AL(9), AK(3), ID(4), KS(6), MS(7), NE(5), NC(14), OK(8), SC(8), TX (32), UT(5) and WY(3). 12 States w/104 EC votes...

Up For Grabs: AZ(8), FL(25), GA(13), IN(12), MT(3), NH(4), NV(4), ND(3), SD(3) and VA(13). 10 States w/88 EC votes...